



21 July 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Welcome to Year 9 – The Journey to Becoming Awesome Continues

Firstly, thank you for your continued support of Maiden Erlegh School in Reading, in what has been an unexpected and challenging time for us as a school, our students and parents alike.

The necessary move to remote learning and the emotional impact that Covid-19 has had has undoubtedly presented us with new challenges. Should any student feel that they need support in the challenges of returning to school, or any personal matters that have occurred during this time then please do not hesitate to contact me and I will endeavour to support. On an academic level the majority of the year group engaged well with remote learning and strived to get the best out of this situation to reduce the impact on their learning. I would encourage those that have not been able to fully engage with work since March to use the summer holiday to catch up as much as they are able to. Doing this will really help when we return in September, particularly as this past year was preparing students to start our journey towards GCSE's in Key Stage 4.

Whilst for some this may seem like a long way into the future, I want to encourage everyone to use this ongoing challenge as a driving force to be reinvigorated for the start of a new academic year and come back to school with ambition and passion to fulfil their full potential and engage with all aspects of their education. They need support from both school, their peers and yourselves at home in order to do this. We are all a team and we need to work together to ensure that all students are successful. As such, I would ask that you use the summer holiday to discuss with your child the importance of their education and encourage them to engage fully upon our return in order to achieve the very best.

I would like to take this opportunity to make you aware of some upcoming key dates for Year 9 for the upcoming year;

- **Information Evening – Thursday 16 October 2020**
- **Data Collection Point 1 – Monday 19 October 2020**
- **Progress Meeting (Parents' Evening) – Thursday 10 June 2021**

I would also like to make you aware of the Assessment Week that Year 9 will sit in the Summer term, this is a week in which students will sit examinations in every subject. I will discuss this in more detail during the Information Evening. The purpose of Assessment Week is to give the students the experience of preparing for and sitting exams in the same manner that they would in their actual GCSE's, whilst also enabling both teachers and students to assess their attainment so that future learning and revision can be targeted.

I am confident that we can continue to work together, with the students at the forefront, to ensure that our journey in Key Stage 4 has a positive start to allow students to reach their full potential.

Should you have any questions regarding the dates I have highlighted, or anything else that you would like to discuss, then please do not hesitate to contact me, via the school reception, on 01189 668065.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Z Wildman', written in a cursive style.

Miss Z Wildman

Head of Year 9